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32.—*Lyra Cœlestis. Hymns on Heaven.* Selected by A. C. THOMPSON, D. D., Author of "The Better Land," "Morning Hours at Patmos," "Gathered Lilies," etc. Boston: Gould and Lincoln. 1863. 12mo. pp. 382.

As the name imports, and as we should expect from the compiler, this is a singularly rich and beautiful collection of sacred poetry. With the best of the familiar poems on heaven, we have many that are new to us, and probably to most readers, some from the hymns of the ancient Church, some from the German, some from writers whose names are hardly known, but will not be soon forgotten.

33.—*La Question de l'Esclavage aux États-Unis.* Par un Ancien Fonctionnaire des Indes Neerlandaises. La Haye: Martinus Nijhoff. 1862. 8vo. pp. 61.

THIS pamphlet, which the demand for "more copy to make even work" permits us to notice, is a friendly and warm-hearted essay on our present national difficulties, and on some of the practical problems which must tax our legislative wisdom and administrative skill, if peace be restored and the union of these States renewed. The author disclaims the right of intervention on the part of the great powers of Europe; but insists on the duty of mediation as incumbent on them on the ground both of policy and humanity. His pamphlet is devoted mainly to the prospective disposal of the slaves now held on our soil, and he brings to the inquiry much pertinent testimony from the East and West Indies, and some valuable fruits of his own observation during his term of official service. He maintains that immediate emancipation, whether with or without compensation to the masters, would be equally injurious to the white and the black population. It would be impossible, as he thinks, to retain the negroes as free laborers where they have been in bondage, especially as a savage independence and a rude subsistence might be secured in the vast regions of country still unsettled. Nor would any plan of colonization on a large scale be practicable, even were there an adequate supply of white labor to fill the void created by the deportation of the blacks. The author draws out in minute detail a plan for the gradual conversion of the slaves into freemen. He proposes that they be first—with adequate compensation to their masters from the general government—made apprentices, with the right and opportunity of purchasing their own freedom; that meanwhile they be placed under the protection of tribunals instituted for that express purpose; and that ample provision be made